(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) During the year 1987-88, the resources available to the Government of Orissa under the National Rural Employment Programme (NREP) and Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP) amounted to Rs. 50.10 crores and Rs. 56.88 crores respectively, inclusive of the State's share under NREP and carry-over from the previous years. Out of this, Rs. 9.56 crores under NREP become available to the Programme only in the last quarter of the year. For computation puposes, this has, therefore, to be ignored. It will leave a balance of Rs. 40.54 crores, under NREP. Against that, the reported utilisation is 37.19 crores, which is 91.73 per cent of available resources. Under RLEGP, a sum of Rs. 16.14 crores was made available to the State against earmarked projects for handicapped areas of Orissa in February/March, 1988. If this sum is taken out of the total available funds, it leaves a balance of Rs. 40.74 crores. The utilisation reported so far is Rs. 35.78 crores, which is 87.82 per cent of available resources. NREP/RLEGP guidelines permit 25 per cent funds to be carried forward from year to year. Judging by these standards, the performance of the Orissa Government is satisfactory.

Processing of food from seaweed

319. SHRI YALLA SESI BHUSHANA RAO: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any Food Processing Industries in the country which process food from seaweed; and

(b) steps taken so far by Government to encourage seaweed cultivation and prepare various types of dishes from seaweed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Violation of service rules in beedi factories

320. SHRI YALLA SESI SHUSHANA RAO: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the many beedi manufacturers have violated the rules regarding working conditions and service facilities in the factories;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the beedi workers are not being paid fixed wages;

(c) if so, what steps have been taken to prevent such under-payment of wages;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the women workers in beedi manufacturing units are denied facilities like leave, Provident Fund and employees' insurance etc; and

(e) if so, what checks have been prescribed to ensure that women workers get their rights?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY): (a) to (c) The appropriate Government for enforcing the provisions of the Beedi & Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966 are the State Governments and all complaints regarding non-payment of minimum wages, or non-fulfilment of the working conditions etc. are dealt by the State Governments concerned. Any complaint received against beedi manufacturers violating the rules regarding the working and service conditions of beedi workers are forwarded to the appropriate State Government for necessary action.

(d) and (e) The Employees Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Pro-

visions Act, 1952, the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948, and other conditions of service apply equally to all employees irrespective of the fact whether they are male or female and the violation of the provisions of all these laws are treated according to the relevent provisions.

Supplies of foorgrains through P.D.S.

321. SHRI YALLA SESI BHUSHANA RAO: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated buffer stocks position of foodgrains as on 1st July, 1988;

(b) the quantity of foodgrains likely to be released during August, 1988 for effecting distribution through the public distribution system;

(c) what steps Government propose to take to augment the supplies of foodgrains through the public distribution system; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take to realise more quantity of foodgrains during the Kharif season?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) As on 1st July, 1988, the totol stock of foodgrains with public agencies was estimated at 11.9 million tonnes.

(b) An allocation of 7.31 lakh tonnes of rice and 6.75 lakh tonnes of wheat has been made from Central Pool for meeting the requirements of public distribution system for the month of August, 1988.

(c) and (d) Government have contracted for import of 7 lakh tonnes of rice and one million tonnes of wheat in order to replenish the buffer stocks. It is proposed to maximise procurement by opening sufficient number of purchase centres and strict enforcement of levy orders. The support price of common paddy has also been increased by Rs. 10/- per quintal and the varietal difference raised from Rs. 4/- to Rs. 10/- per quintal.

Shifting of Delhi Race Club

322. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question 327 in the Rajya Sabha on the 8th May, 1987 and state:

(a) by when the Delhi Race Club will be shifted from its present site; and

(b) whether any site has been selected for the purpose; if not, by when it will be selected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) A land utilisation study and its technical feasibility has been initiated for considering the suitability of alternative site on the East Yamuna Bank for shifting the Delhi Race Club. It is a major developmental exercise. No definite date can, therefore be indicated for completion of the whole exercise.

Losses suffered by F.C.I.

323. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) total amount of losses suffered by the Food Corporation of India during the period from April, 1987 to March, 1988; and

(b) whether the amount of this loss is less than that of the last two financial years, if so, to what extent?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) and (b) The accounts of the Food Corporation of India for 1987-88 are in the process of finalisation and the amount of loss will be known when accounts are finanlised.